

In Memoriam:

Michael C. Zerner

We learned with sorrow that Michael Zerner, a member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Computational Chemistry, succumbed two days after his 60th birthday following a long battle with colon cancer. His untimely death saddened his many friends and acquaintances around the world. Mike was not only widely known as a highly respected scientist, but also for his engaging personality. Those who were in contact with Mike, personally and at the many scientific meetings he organized, were livened by his enthusiasm, his penetrating insights, and his hearty laughter.

We noticed with poignancy that the Special Issue of the International Journal of Quantum Chemistry, a birthday honor for Mike, was ready in time for him to appreciate it. He was a long-term Associate Editor of IJQC and his service on the JCC Board provided us with liaison and his considerable experience.

A native of Boston, Mike was educated at Carnegie Mellon University and at Harvard, where he received his Ph.D. working with Martin Gouterman in 1966. After establishing his academic career at the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada, he joined the Quantum Theory Project at the University of Florida, Gainesville, in 1982, and became Distinguished Professor of Chemistry and Physics. The Alexander von Humboldt Prize, fellowship in the American Institute of Physics, and an honorary



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doctorate from the University of Tartu, Estonia are among the many distinctions which can be found in his biography in the special IJQC issue. Mike was particularly well known for his development of the widely-employed program package, ZINDO, for his studies of the excited electronic states of large molecules, and for his wide-ranging contributions from metal-metal bonding and transition metal complexes to important biochemical systems.

Mike is survived by his wife, Anna, his daughter, Emma, and his son, Erik.